GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1714
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2016
Aircraft Squadrons of IAF
Agrawal Shri Rajendra;Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay";Raghavan Shri M. K.;Rao (Avnthi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current strength of Squadrons of Indian Air Force (IAF) are sufficient to meet any eventuality in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government proposes to phase out old fighter aircraft including MIG versions;

(d) if so, the total number of crashes of such aircraft during the year 2015-16 and the steps taken to replace such aircraft; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government for encouraging aeronautical research and development of new aircraft, sensors, weapons and signature reduction advances?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
????? ????? ?????? (??. ????? ?????)

(a) & (b): The Indian Air Force (IAF) is equipped to cater for the threat environment that exists and is ready to meet the role assigned to it. Operational preparedness of IAF is reviewed from time to time based on the threat perception.

(c) & (d): Phasing out of aircraft including MIG versions and their replacement with new generation aircraft depends upon national security consideration, strategic objectives and operational requirements of the defence forces. Further, augmentation of capabilities of IAF including its modernization and acquisition is a dynamic and continuous process. A total number of 4 fighter aircraft of IAF including MiG versions have crashed during the year 2015-16.

(e) Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) is carrying out research for development of various aeronautical technologies including aircraft and weapon systems.
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